

each of  $X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently, is O or S;

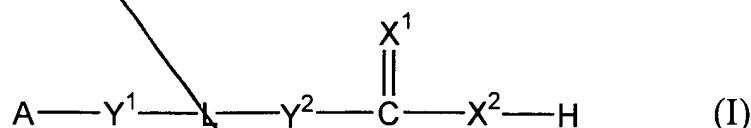
each of  $Y^1$  and  $Y^2$ , independently, is  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^b)-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ , or a bond; each of  $\text{R}^a$  and  $\text{R}^b$ , independently, being hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, hydroxylalkyl, hydroxyl, or haloalkyl;

L is a straight  $\text{C}_{3-12}$  hydrocarbon chain optionally containing at least one double bond, at least one triple bond, or at least one double bond and one triple bond; said hydrocarbon chain being optionally substituted with  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkoxy, hydroxyl, halo, amino, nitro, cyano,  $\text{C}_{3-5}$  cycloalkyl, 3-5 membered heterocycloalkyl, monocyclic aryl, 5-6 membered heteroaryl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkylcarbonyloxy,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyloxycarbonyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkylcarbonyl, or formyl; and further being optionally interrupted by  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^c)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^c)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^c)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^c)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)-$ , or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ ; each of  $\text{R}^c$  and  $\text{R}^d$ , independently, being hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, hydroxylalkyl, hydroxyl, or haloalkyl; provided that when L contains two or more double bonds, the double bonds are not adjacent to each other; that when L contains three double bonds, said hydrocarbon chain is further substituted with  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkoxy, hydroxyl, halo, amino, nitro, cyano,  $\text{C}_{3-5}$  cycloalkyl, 3-5 membered heterocycloalkyl, monocyclic aryl, 5-6 membered heteroaryl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkylcarbonyloxy,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyloxycarbonyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkylcarbonyl, or formyl; and further provided that when L contains zero, one, or two conjugated double bonds and A is  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl phenyl or unsubstituted phenyl,  $Y^1$  is not a bond or  $\text{CH}_2$ , and  $Y^2$  is not a bond or  $\text{CH}_2$ ;

or a salt thereof.

--13. (Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is phenyl optionally substituted with alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, or amino.--

--22. (Amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein

A is a cyclic moiety selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl; the cyclic moiety being optionally substituted with alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, hydroxylalkyl, or amino;

each of  $X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently, is O or S;

each of  $Y^1$  and  $Y^2$ , independently, is  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^a)-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^b)-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ , or a bond; each of  $\text{R}^a$  and  $\text{R}^b$ , independently, being hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxylalkyl, or haloalkyl;

L is a straight  $\text{C}_{3-12}$  hydrocarbon chain optionally containing at least one double bond, at least one triple bond, or at least one double bond and one triple bond; said hydrocarbon chain being optionally substituted with  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkoxy, or amino, and further optionally interrupted by  $-\text{O}-$  or  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^c)-$ , where  $\text{R}^c$  is hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxylalkyl, or haloalkyl; provided that when L contains two or more double bonds, the double bonds are not adjacent to each other; that when L contains three double bonds, said hydrocarbon chain is substituted with  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-4}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkoxy, or amino; and further provided that when L contains zero, one, or two conjugated double bonds and A is  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl phenyl or unsubstituted phenyl,  $Y^1$  is not a bond or  $\text{CH}_2$ , and  $Y^2$  is not a bond or  $\text{CH}_2$ ;

or a salt thereof.

C4